

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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DeLoach _____
Walters _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO :

Mr. Bishop

DATE: 5-12-70

FROM :

M. A. Jones

SUBJECT:

UNFAVORABLE REFERENCES TO
BUREAU ON CAROL BURNETT SHOW

The Director has received a copy of a letter which [redacted] of Cocoa Beach, Florida, sent to the "Carol Burnett Show." [redacted] refers to Miss Burnett's television program presented on 5-4-70 in which a guest, George Carlin, did a "take-off" on the FBI, the Director, and the "ten most wanted." [redacted] and her husband considered the presentation in very poor taste and deplored the fact that Miss Burnett would allow this kind of performance on her program. USA

The Director has inquired: "What do we know of Carlin? H"

A check of files in the Director's Office and available reference material dealing with entertainers reflected no data concerning Carlin. The only information in our files identifiable with him concerns criticism of him which was brought to our attention in February, 1969, following his appearance on the Jackie Gleason television program. In his performance Carlin referred to the Bureau and the Director in a satirical vein. His treatment was considered to be in very poor taste and it was obvious that he was using the prestige of the Bureau and Mr. Hoover to enhance his performance. As an example, he commented on one occasion "I'm J. Edgar Noover. I have just come back from a stakeout with Ramsey Clark-- that is a cookout in the back yard."

Our files contain no pertinent information regarding Carol Burnett.

[redacted] of former Special Agent [redacted] who EOD 8-20-51 and resigned 5-6-61 for personal reasons. His services were satisfactory and he is on the Special Correspondents List. We have had considerable cordial correspondence with [redacted] who has always indicated that she is a firm supporter of the Director and the Bureau.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to [redacted]

MAY 14 1970

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosure
- 1 - Miss Gandy - Enclosure

- 1 - Miss Holmes - Enclosure
- 1 - M. A. Jones - Enclosure

54 JUN 1970

MAY 27 1970

CRIME RESEARCH

May 12, 1970

REC-35

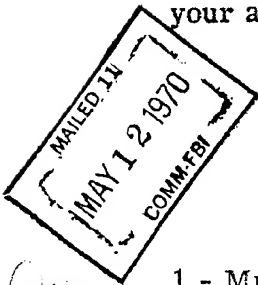
94-4-975-703

Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931

Dear [REDACTED]

The copy of your letter of May 5, 1970,
addressed to the "Carol Burnett Show" has been received,
and I do want to express my thanks for your kind remarks
and expressions of confidence. It is always good to know
that we have the support of such staunch friends as you,
and I certainly hope that our efforts will continue to merit
your approval.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover



1 - Mr. DeLoach (detached)
1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)
1 - M. A. Jones (detached)

1 - Miss Gandy (detached)
1 - Miss Holmes (detached)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo dated 5/12/70, captioned
"Unfavorable References to Bureau on Carol Burnett Show."

CJH:kjs (9)

51 MAY 20 1970

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

b6
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UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 94-4-975-703

Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
5 May 1970

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Walters
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

b6
b7c

Carol Burnett Show
Columbia Broadcasting Company
Prospect Street
Hollywood, California 90028

Dear Carol Burnett:

For sometime now my husband and I have enjoyed watching your program when the occasion presented itself, but tonight our mouths fell open and almost to the floor in utter dismay and shock.

Your show appearing on Channel 6, WFTS (CBS) Orlando, Monday night, May 4, was a repeat with guest George Carlin, who did a take-off on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover, and the "ten most wanted." We were amazed that you, as the star, would condone such a flagrant display of poor taste and degradation of one of our finest governmental investigative agencies, which maintains dignity, pride, and honor. The applause, if live, showed an obvious lack of character.

When the time comes (and one never knows "when" or "if") for those responsible sanctioning such slander to be in need of the services of the FBI if a crime has been committed against someone near and dear, I hope this letter is remembered and an apology is either voiced, or at least thought, for the bureau men who render aid and assistance.

I would like to remind those who are unaware, that had it not been for the "tight ship" maintained by the director of the bureau, J. Edgar Hoover, the exceptional record in all phases would not have been to his credit for the last forty-six years. Although Mr. Hoover has been the object of criticism periodically, he has always displayed dignity -- a trait many others in our country would do well to develop!

If the critics have a better solution as to what they may categorize as "a problem," let a realistic solution be offered by these contents -- but to destroy rather than build, in my opinion, is not the way our country achieved "a walk on the moon."

Little seeds, planted in the minds of viewers, such as were presented by this performer, appear to be one of the many factors

EXP. PROC.
35 MAY 11 1970

FBI

REC-35

94-4-725-703

MAY 11 1970

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

REC. UNIT CORRESPONDENCE

Carol Burnett Show

-2-

5 May 1970

contributing to the breakdown in this nation's respect for law and order.
Programs such as this drive viewers who prefer dignity away from television,
to the land of good music found frequently on the radio.

Sincerely,

B

[Redacted]

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cc: [Redacted] President
J. Edgar Hoover, Director

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[Redacted]

FBI
RECEIVED
MAY 11 1 20 PM '70
44-112

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Dallas, Tex

January 25, 1969

AIRMAIL

The Jackie Gleason Show
Columbia Broadcasting System
51 West 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Attention: Mr. Jackie Gleason

Dear Mr. Gleason:

This letter is written to express displeasure with some of the remarks made by Mr. George Carlin regarding crime and the Department of Justice and by Miss Edie Adams regarding Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson on your program tonight.

The crime wave is not a subject for levity or humor, and the Department of Justice is not a subject to be made fun of, any more than it would be proper to make light of the U.S. Constitution. The hippies and the yippies may be taking serious things lightly but the majority of the people in the United States are law abiding citizens and do not appreciate anyone making fun of crime. The families of citizens who have been killed as a result of crime in this country do not think the subject is funny. Neither do their friends think it is a subject for a laugh. Our Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is doing everything in its power to control crime and public opinion is behind them. This Branch of our Government is to be spoken of with reverence and respect rather than jest and so-called wit.

Now, about the question of making fun of Mrs. Johnson. Mrs. Johnson is a lady who has served her country to the best of her ability and people at least should show her the respect not to use her manner of speech or her family in order to try to get a laugh. In truth and in fact, your program must have run short on ideas for humor to have resorted to the type of material exhibited on your program tonight.

I believe you, yourself, owe the public an apology and an explanation on both of these counts.

Yours very truly,

REC- 89

XEROX
JAN 30 1969

cc: Programming Department
KRLD-TV, 400 N. Griffin
Dallas, Texas 75202

cc: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

54 FEB 11 1969

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson
Johnson City, Texas

25 JAN 28 1969

CORRESPONDENCE

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February 12, 1969

REC-30

63-2743-6

Mr. James C. Elsworth
Senior Vice President
United California Bank
600 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90054

Dear Jim: ELSWORTH

I have received a copy of your letter to [redacted]
and also a copy of the letter from [redacted]
to Mr. Jackie Gleason and I certainly appreciate your
thoughtfulness in forwarding these to me.

Your support of this Bureau over the years
is deeply appreciated and I am also writing to [redacted]
to thank him for the stand which he took concerning the
Jackie Gleason Show which was aired on January 25, 1969.

Sincerely,

JEH

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (detached)
1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo dated 2-12-69, captioned
"The Jackie Gleason Show, January 25, 1969."

Tolson _____
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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

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MAILED 21

FEB 12 1969

COMM-FBI

56 FEB 23 1969
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MR. TOLSON ✓
MR. DELOACH ✓
MR. MOHR ✓
MR. BISHOP ✓
MR. CASPER ✓
MR. CALLAHAN ✓
MR. CONRAD ✓
MR. FELT ✓
MR. GALE ✓
MR. ROSEN ✓
MR. SULLIVAN ✓
MR. TAVEL ✓
MR. TROTTER ✓
MR. JONES ✓
TELE. ROOM ✓
MISS HOLMES ✓
MRS. METCALF ✓
MISS GANDY ✓

February 10, 1969

The attached correspondence was sent to the Director from James C. Ellsworth, President, Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Inc., 600 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90014.

nm

FEB 10 1969

REC- 30

63-2743-6
25 FEB 17 1969

CRIME RESEARCH

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

69-111-10000



600 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90014

February 6, 1969

Dear

Thank you for the copy of your January 29 letter to Jackie Gleason. Since I do not watch Gleason and have very little time to watch any television, I missed this show. Your letter is beautifully done and I am sure you expressed the feelings of many of us who dislike any cheapening of the image of the Director or the Bureau. Thank you for expressing yourself to Mr. Gleason.

Your letter does not indicate that a copy was sent to the Director and I am taking the liberty to send him a copy at this time.

Sincerely

Jim (James C. Ellsworth)

REC- 30

63-2743-6

25 FEB 17 1969

JCE:jcb

JCE:jcb
c. c. & enc. 14 The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
c. c. -

SOCIETY OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, INC.

January 29, 1969

Mr. Jackie Gleason
The Jackie Gleason Show
Miami Beach, Florida

Dear Jackie:

Your show of last Saturday evening certainly left much to be desired. Considering that I have been a fan who has followed you from way back to the Channel 5 and DuMont Network days, this evaluation is not given lightly.

Your programs up to now have been entertainment at its best--clean, wholesome, professional and on the highest level.

Last Saturday you featured an individual by the name of George Carlin. I believe he was supposed to be a comedian. The subject of his material was the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover--his treatment of both was sleazy, in shockingly bad taste, and certainly not the sort of thing one could expect on your show. As a long-time member of your audience and as a former Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, my reaction is both sincere and justified.

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In the field of law enforcement there are no more respected names than the Federal Bureau of Investigation and J. Edgar Hoover. In the field of entertainment there is no greater personality than Jackie Gleason. It's a shame that a third-rate hanger-on would use the generosity of one to belittle the reputation of the other.

How early years,

b7c
b6

D32:K9

See Mr. James Ellsworth

ENCLOSURE

3/11

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop *JB*

DATE: 2-12-69

FROM : M. A. Jones *MAJ*

SUBJECT: THE JACKIE GLEASON SHOW
JANUARY 25, 1969

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
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Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Mr. James C. Ellsworth, President of the Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation forwarded to the Director a copy of a letter which Mr. [redacted] a former Special Agent, who is on the Special Correspondents List, had sent to Jackie Gleason in Miami, Florida.

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Mr. [redacted] commented concerning the appearance of one George Carlin, an alleged comedian who appeared on the Jackie Gleason Show on the evening of January 25, 1969. Mr. [redacted] commented that the subject of Carlin's material was the FBI and Mr. Hoover and that his treatment of both was shoddy and in shockingly bad taste.

Carlin did appear on the Jackie Gleason Show on January 25, 1969, and referred to the Bureau and the Director in a satirical vein. His treatment was in very poor taste and it was obvious that he was using the prestige of the Bureau and Mr. Hoover to enhance his performance. As an example, he commented on one occasion "I'm J. Edgar Noover. I have just come back from a stakeout with Ramsey Clark--that is a cookout in the back yard." Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Carlin.

The Miami Office has advised that their files contain no information concerning Carlin and explained that the Jackie Gleason Show is usually filmed four or five months in advance of its actual showing. The Office advised that Gleason does not produce the entire show and that in their opinion Gleason would not permit anyone to belittle the Bureau or the Director if he had prior knowledge. The Office advised that from their prior contacts with Jackie Gleason and specifically with Mr. Hank Meyers, Gleason's Public Relations Director, who is also an SAC Contact, they are of the opinion that Gleason holds the Director and the FBI in the highest esteem and that Gleason himself thinks that the Director is one of the greatest men who has ever lived.

Enclosures (2) sent 2-12-69

12 FEB 18 1969

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosures (2)

CONTINUED - OVER

TBC:ksi

(5)

VERS. REC. UNIT

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo
RE: THE JACKIE GLEASON SHOW

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the attached letters go forward to Mr. [redacted] and Mr. Ellsworth thanking them for bringing the material to our attention.

2. That no further action be taken in regard to Carlin's appearance on the Jackie Gleason Show.

TEB

OK.
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